

# WEST COAST FANTASY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

## Statement of Objectives

This association was created by individuals who have attended professional baseball fantasy camps. The association's objectives are to honor the great game of baseball, carry on the game's traditions and enjoy the comradeship of like-minded individuals who also love the sport of baseball. The idea was to provide a FUN experience for all against the background of friendly but competitive baseball. All of the rules of conduct are intended to protect and maintain the association while accomplishing these objectives.

## Players

Players are expected to exhibit sportsmanship toward other players, fans and umpires whether on the field, in the stands, or at any other association event.

Players are expected to respect their managers, teammates, opponents, umpires and fans. Games and practices organized and scheduled through the association are meant to be FUN. Excessive foul language is unacceptable and will not be tolerated from any participant. Many players bring family members to our events and members not exhibiting acceptable behavior may be asked to leave. Behavior that is unacceptable is to be addressed by the manager (s) and/or the umpires, and if it persists, it will be reported to the league authorities for review.

Players are expected to be careful of the safety of their teammates, opponents, umpires and fans. Any equipment thrown during play can be dangerous. Throwing equipment intentionally in frustration or in anger is prohibited. These actions will be subject to review and potential disciplinary action. The association follows the guidelines that runners must attempt to avoid contact with fielders in the act of making a play to prevent injuries. Our rules require that "runners slide or avoid contact" and that there are "no collisions at home plate". It is important that all league members understand and attempt to follow these rules. It is understood that some baseball situations will result in unavoidable collisions and are simply part of the game. The umpire's will determine if a collision was avoidable or not.

Players are expected to respect the authority of the umpires. Players should talk with umpires in a respectful manner. The Managers/Coaches and umpires should be left to work out any rulings or disputes.

League players are expected to communicate their availability to play on a week-by-week basis to their Manager according to the league established deadlines as to cooperate with the needs of the pool coordinator to assign additional players, as needed, to teams.

Players are expected to appear at games/events they schedule and accept. Players who no show may be charged and multiple no shows may result in suspension from league and/or tournament participation.

Players are expected to understand that we are guests at the sites that allow us to play games. We need to be respectful of the field, dugout, stands and surrounding areas. Parking in residential areas should always be done with respect to the neighbors.

### Managers and Coaches

Team managers or coaches (in association with sponsored or attended events or in league games) are expected to act in a sportsman-like manner at all times. The Manager/Coach is a key position in promoting the values of the association.

Managers/Coaches must help in monitoring play and fan conduct as well as enforcing the code of conduct and baseball rules specific to the association.

Many of our games (league and tournaments) are scheduled to accommodate all of the players participating in multiple games. Managers/Coaches are expected to have their team ready to throw the first pitch at game time. This means infield has been taken and completed; or such activity is forfeited. The batting order and starting position assignments should be discussed with players before the scheduled start time.

League Managers are expected to communicate with their players and forward their needs to the pool coordinator according to the league established deadlines.

League Managers are expected to communicate with the pool coordinator regarding players who no show. This is for full-time and pool players. The association runs on the participation of members and schedules are based on 12 to 13 players per team per game. Other members may have been turned away when they could have participated.

Managers are responsible for discussing the rules with the opposing manager and umpires before each game. Many of the umpires work other leagues with different playing rules. Discussions of rules and rulings should be done in a civil manner. No rule adjustments may be made at the field without the ADVANCE approval of the commissioner. The umpires may make special field condition ground rules for a specific date only.

### Alcohol and Smoking

Smoking and drinking alcohol are ALWAYS prohibited during play on the field. At venues where alcohol is permitted, players, officials and spectators are expected to use discretion to avoid incidents which may bring discredit upon the association. Managers and players ARE RESPONSIBLE for the conduct of their fans.

At schools, public parks or venues where alcohol and/or smoking are prohibited, players and fans are expected to refrain from engaging in these activities.

ANY VIOLATION of these rules will be subject to such disciplinary action as the commissioner or the Board may impose on a case-by-case basis.

### Violations and Penalties

Violations of any of the above should be reported to the league commissioner in the case of a league game or to the WCFBA commissioner in the case of a tournament event. NO MEMBER should attempt to issue rulings to another member without contacting the appropriate commissioner. The commissioners will seek out both sides of the story before making a decision about any disciplinary action.

It is up to the appropriate commissioner's discretion as to what penalty, if any, will be assessed to those found guilty of a violation. The commissioners will consider the seriousness of the violation, the number of violations by the member, and the member's understanding of the violation before assessing any penalty. As an informal guideline, the following will may used:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – one-game suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – three-game suspension

A single offense may be deemed serious enough to result in the member losing his/her playing privilege for the entire current season and/or future seasons and/or events. Such a ruling will require the approval of a majority of the current WCFBA Board.